# TOWN OF FREMONT NH 2006 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

# FIRST SESSION FOR VOTING: TUESDAY MARCH 14, 2006 TO BE HELD AT THE FREMONT SAFETY COMPLEX AT 425 MAIN STREET IN FREMONT NEW HAMPSHIRE TIME: 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Annmarie Scribner, Assistant Town Moderator, opened the first session of the 2006 Fremont Town Meeting at 8:00 am at the Fremont Safety Complex, 425 Main Street. The Town and School Warrants were read. Twenty absentee ballots that had been received by 1:00 pm were opened and signatures verified. No other absentee ballots were received by 5:00 pm. The polls closed at 7:00 pm and the counting of ballots commenced, with the aid of an Accu-Vote counting machine. Write-in votes were tallied by hand.

Voting totals included 2,506 registered voters on the checklist and 19 new registrants on polling day. There were a total of 496 total votes cast; including the 20 absentee ballots. The results of the election are as follows:

**ARTICLE 1:** To choose by ballot all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. Miscellaneous write-in votes are not reported here. A full election report, including every write-in, is available in the Town Clerk's Office. Write-ins of less than five votes are not accounted for here.

Selectman – 3 years		Budget Committee - 2 for 3 years	
Christopher J Braid	46	Douglas J McElroy	372
Eugene Cordes	317	Michael Nygren	58
Brett A Hunter	107	Douglas McElroy and Michael Nygren	
Gene Cordes declared the winner.		declared the winners.	

<u>Trustee of Trust Funds - 3 years</u>		Road Agent - 3 years	
Kenn Jones	7	Guerwood M Holmes	406
Kenn Jones declared the winner.		Guerwood M Holmes declared the	
		winner.	

<u>Library Trustee - 3 yea</u>	ars		
Barbara D Baker	438	Supervisor of Checklist - 6	<u>ý years</u>
Barbara Baker declared the winner.		Annmarie Stackpole	417

Annmarie Stackpole declared the winner.

Moderator - 2 years

Raymond Bernier 421

Raymond Bernier declared the winner.

**ARTICLE 2:** Are you in favor of adopting a new <u>ARTICLE IV -A</u> for the Fremont Zoning Ordinance known as the In-Law/Accessory Apartment Ordinance to read as follows:

<u>ARTICLE IV -A</u>
IN-LAW/ACCESSORY APARTMENTS.

By Special Exception "in-law/accessory apartments" are allowed within, or as an addition to, existing residential single family structures.

Mobile home units and manufactured housing units less than 1600 square feet, residential duplexes, townhouses or R-1, R-2, and/or R-4 residential apartments/groups, all are excluded from this section. In addition "In-law/accessory apartments" are not allowed within industrial, commercial and/or business type uses or buildings.

An "In-law/accessory apartment" special exception shall be granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment, only upon finding by this Board that it meets the provisions and conditions of this section.

- A. The applicant, seeking an in-law/accessory apartment shall make application to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.
- B. The property must conform to the dimensional requirements of the single family minimum lot size standard as established by Fremont Zoning Ordinance in 1971 (Lot size of 1 acres minimum is required), and the single family dwelling shall have been constructed and occupied for a period of a minimum of one year.
- C. The dwelling to which the in-law/accessory apartment is being created must be owner occupied and be of greater than 1200 square feet of total existing living space.
- D. The living area of the in-law/accessory apartment shall be a minimum of 400 square feet and a maximum of 800 square feet. Size shall be determined by the total square footage of the in-law/accessory apartment. The initial family unit may not be lessened by such dimensions so as to create non-compliance with Article V Section 2.
- E. No more than two bedrooms are permitted in the in-law/accessory apartment.
- F. The owner shall provide evidence to the Building Official that septic facilities are adequate to service the in-law/accessory apartment. Such evidence shall be in the form of certification by State of N.H. licensed septic system designer. The Building Official shall indicate his/her approval in writing to the Zoning Board of Adjustment as to proper certification having been received.
- G. The in-law/accessory apartment shall be designed such that the appearance of the building remains that of the single family dwelling. Any new entrances shall be located on the side or rear of the building and shall be at ground level.
- H. All in-law/accessory apartments shall have accessible entrances and shall conform to dwelling unit Type-B construction, as specified in the International Residential Code (IRC).
- I. The primary residence and the in-law/accessory apartment must share common water, septic, and electric facilities.

- J. In no case shall more than one in-law/accessory apartment be permitted within the structure. Dormitory-type facilities and living are expressly prohibited whether seasonal or otherwise.
- K. In-law/accessory apartment shall not be constructed or established within any accessory use structure (such as a garage). Only the primary residential structure may contain the in-law/accessory apartment.
- L. Off-street parking must be available for a minimum of four automobiles for the entire structure. In no case shall an in-law apartment be permitted to have a separate driveway or separate garage to accommodate its occupant(s).
- M. All in-law/accessory apartments shall be provided with an interconnected smoke alarm system. All smoke alarms shall be listed and installed in accordance with the provisions of the IRC and the household fire warning provisions of NFPA 72.
- N. The provisions of the International Residential Code (IRC) shall apply to all construction elements of the in-law/accessory apartment. There shall be no occupancy of the in-law/accessory apartment until the Building Official has issued an occupancy permit.
- O. No in-law/accessory apartments shall be allowed within the Flood Plain as identified by the FIRM map relating to Fremont, N.H.

Upon receiving approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals and prior to receiving a building permit, the applicant shall demonstrate to the authorized official that the applicant has recorded the special exception decision with Rockingham Registry, indexed under the name of the property owner. Any special exception granted under this Section shall contain a provision which states as follows: "Upon the cessation of occupancy by an immediate family member, the owner hereby acknowledges and purchasers are put on notice, that the inlaw/apartment is to be used only by immediate family members and no others, and that no variances from this provision shall be obtained permitting any other use".

Variances to this special exception may not be granted.

The following definitions shall pertain to this section:

In-law/accessory apartment - An apartment within a single family residence. An in-law apartment is defined as "a separate living space within a single family dwelling unit consisting of separate sleeping, cooking and bathroom facilities and which is intended to be occupied by an in-law or in-laws of a member of a family unit occupying the main part of the dwelling." and meeting the following criteria:

In-law apartments may be occupied only by members of the family unit occupying the main part of the dwelling or by in-laws of a member of

said family unit. The applicant must satisfactorily demonstrate that said apartment will be utilized only in this fashion. The occupancy or rental of an in-law apartment by persons other than in-laws, as defined in this ordinance, is expressly prohibited.

R-1/R-2/R-4 - Residential occupancy groups as defined by the International Residential Code.

**DWELLING UNIT, TYPE B.** - A dwelling unit designed and constructed for accessibility in accordance with ICC/ANSI A117.1, intended to be consistent with the technical requirements of fair housing required by federal law.

The Planning Board recommends this article.

YES - 329 NO - 149 BLANKS - 18 Article passed by ballot vote.

**ARTICLE 3:** Are you in favor of adopting a new <u>ARTICLE XIII</u> for the Fremont Zoning Ordinance known as Village District Ordinance to read as follows:

ARTICLE XIII - FREMONT VILLAGE DISTRICT ORDINANCE

- 1.1 Purpose: To preserve the area around Route 107 between Black Rocks Village and the Fremont Library as the traditional and actual Town Center. This area is bordered by Map 3 Lot 22, Map 3 Lot 149, Map 2 Lot 163 and Map 2 Lot 35. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish special conditions which when satisfied would allow, through design guidelines, mixed uses of retail, professional offices, and residential in the Town Center. The Planning Board is hereby empowered and authorized to administer this ordinance in conjunction with the Board of Selectmen and Building Official(s) of the Town of Fremont.
- 1.2 Uses Permitted: Subject to Site Plan approval as provided in the Fremont Site Plan Regulations: Small retail shops, with a footprint not larger than seven thousand (7,000) square feet for a single structure, eating and drinking establishments where consumption is primarily intended to be on the premises, professional offices, schools, banks, bakeries, civic, public, institutional facilities, medical offices, clinics, single and townhouse residential uses and personal services, such as, hairdressers. Nearly all of the Village District is within the Aquifer Protection District; therefore uses that are prohibited within the Aquifer Protection District are also prohibited within the Village District, where these two areas overlap.
- 1.3.1 There shall be a minimum seventy-five (75') feet natural buffer, of vegetation supplemented by evergreen trees and landscaped berms, where the non-residential uses within the Village District abuts residential uses outside the District.
- 1.3.2 Existing buildings, with historical significance, as recommended within the Fremont Master Plan in conjunction with recommendations

from the Fremont Historical Society, shall be preserved and reused for permitted uses.

- 1.3.3 Buildings shall be designed and sited to maintain views and vistas.
- 1.3.4 Non-conforming lots within the Village District can not be made smaller.
- 1.4 Development Standards: Development standards shall be prescribed in the Planning Board Site Plan Review Regulations.

The Planning Board recommends this article.

YES - 360 NO - 122 BLANKS - 14 Article passed by ballot vote.

**ARTICLE 4:** By petition: "Shall the Town of Fremont NH vote to allow absentee ballot voting at the annual Town Meeting by adopting all the provisions of RSA 40:13 (SB2, 'Official Ballot Voting' Law) on all issues before the Town of Fremont NH?"

The Board of Selectmen do not recommend this article.

YES -223 NO - 265 BLANKS - 8 Article defeated by ballot vote. Needed 293 votes to pass by required 2/3 majority.

# SECOND SESSION: SATURDAY MARCH 18, 2006 TO BE HELD AT THE ELLIS SCHOOL AT 432 MAIN STREET IN FREMONT NEW HAMPSHIRE TIME: 5:00 PM

At 5:00 pm at Ellis School on Saturday March 18, 2006 the second session of the Fremont Town Meeting came to order at Ellis School. Present were Assistant Town Moderator Annmarie Scribner, Selectmen Gene Cordes, Peter Bolduc, Donald Gates Jr; Town Clerk Lori Holmes, Deputy town Clerk Kathy Arsenault, Town Administrator Heidi Carlson; and approximately 170 townspeople.

Scribner indicated that Town Moderator Ray Bernier was ill. Scribner called the meeting to order at 5:05 and announced it was the second session of the Fremont Town Meeting. She asked Chief Janvrin to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge was followed by a moment of silence held for our military troops currently serving.

She introduced the head table which also included Town Attorney John Ryan, in addition to those persons listed in paragraph one above.

Scribner read the Rules of Order for the meeting:

- ♦ To vote you must be a registered voter with the Town of Fremont
- ♦ The meeting is to be fair and everyone is to be treated equally
- ♦ All remarks are to be made through the Moderator.

- ♦ If you wish to speak, raise your hand or go to the microphone and the Moderator will recognize you. Go to the microphone and state your name for the record and ask your question.
- ♦ If you would like to speak, but you have already spoken, let other people with questions have an opportunity for a first question.
- ♦ There will be a four minute time-limit on questions or comments per person.
- ♦ All speakers must be courteous. I will not allow personal attacks or inappropriate language.
- ♦ If there is an amendment on the floor, we will resolve it before we entertain another amendment
- ♦ No inappropriate remarks or inconsiderate behavior will be tolerated.
- ♦ Action on any amendment will be resolved prior to action on any other amendment.
- ♦ When a motion to call the question is made and seconded that ends discussion of the main motion. This is not debatable and requires a two-thirds vote.

RSA 40:10 allows a vote to be protected against reconsideration. After any vote passes at a meeting, the meeting may then vote to restrict reconsideration of that prior vote or article. If the vote to restrict reconsideration passes, the vote or warrant article that is subject to the restriction is, until final adjournment of that meeting.

Scribner read the results of the voting session for Town Officers, which was held at the first session of the meeting, on Tuesday March 14, 2006. This is also posted and available on the Town's website.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the purchase of land or other property interests therein to protect the Town's rural character and natural resources by conserving land; not more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et seq, as amended; to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. Said bonds/notes will be issued on an as needed basis, to acquire easements or ownership for open space on parcels as recommended by the Conservation Commission, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen in accordance with the provisions of RSA 36-A:4. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (2/3 ballot vote required.)

Gene Cordes moved the question. Reese Bassett seconded.

Gene Cordes introduced the article and introduced Janice O'Brien of the Open Space Committee to further discuss it.

She said this article is similar to those brought forward in the past two years, for the purpose of preserving land for open space in Fremont. She explained that the Open Space Committee has been working for several years on a solid criteria and filter through that, any land which comes

forward for consideration. She said that 70 towns from the lakes region south, have appropriated \$126 Million dollars in the past couple of years for open space preservation.

She indicated that the period of time between 2003 and 2005 resulted in 175 building permits being issued in Fremont for new dwellings, a trend schedule very likely to continue into the foreseeable future.

If we were to use the \$1,000,000 in the first year, (which is unlikely), the bond impact would be \$0.26 per \$1000 valuation on the tax rate in 2007. She gave examples of what this meant in terms of certain assessed valuations on a weekly or annual basis.

O'Brien said that for her it is a quality of life issues. She said the ability to save land will allow us to keep the quality and quantity of our water supply, areas for wildlife to flourish, and preserve open lands in Fremont.

She then introduced co-chair of the Open Space Committee Kenn Jones.

Jones said that he understands people who have been here before understand the issues related to open space. He explained that studies have shown that the town spends more money when houses get built than if land is conserved. Studies show that \$1 in taxes cost \$1.04 in services versus \$0.36 in services driven by undeveloped land. He said it makes good financial sense. He added that since 1990 population has increased 60% and we are building 30 houses per year since 1990.

He explained the process whereby properties are brought to the attention of the committee, they look at them, they have a third party do an appraisal; before bringing it to the Conservation Commission and Board of Selectmen. All of these meetings are open to the public.

Jones said that last year a bond was passed to purchase Glen Oakes, but this year they have not come forward with specific properties, but it does not always work out to the schedule of landowners deciding to sell their land. With regard to the Glen Oakes purchase, the Committee did get a \$50,000 grant from the NH State Conservation Commission and a \$20,000 grant from the NH Trails Bureau. This saved taxpayers \$70,000 in the original bond.

Jones highlighted that in the last few years Chester appropriated \$150,000 to have in their "bank" and got \$75,000 from a federal grant. He said that none of those grants were available for Fremont to get because we did not have matching funds available.

Kimberly Jones said that passing this bond is a good idea, and would allow us to apply for matching money from the federal government. She said that if you look at the 20 year bond, the yearly increases in taxes go down over the 20 years, and then it is gone for good. The cost of development costs the town forever.

Reese Bassett called the question, Gene Cordes seconded. The body got up to begin voting. Moderator Scribner announced that the polls were open for ballot voting on Article 5 at 5:25

pm. There was approximately a 30 minute recess while the majority of those present got through the voting line.

Lori Holmes moved to move Article 20 to be the next article to vote on. Gene Cordes seconded the motion. The vote was approved. The Moderator then announced that she has received a properly signed petition to have Article 20 to voted on by written ballot.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 20**: By Petition: To see if the Town will vote to approve to combine all fire personnel and function and all emergency medical services personnel and function, including the existing "Fast Squad" into a single Fire Department under the supervision of the Fire Chief to start the Monday after the annual Town Meeting held in 2007. (Majority vote required).

Peter Bolduc moved Article 20. Gene Cordes seconded.

Tim Lindeman, representing the Fremont Rescue Squad, read a statement. He stated he is a full-time paramedic and was speaking to give the position of the Rescue Squad on the current warrant article. He said that there is no plan in place on how to merge, and as a group of medically trained professionals, they do not believe this is the best option.

He indicated that joint trainings are beneficial but each specialty (EMS and Fire) needs to focus on their specialized areas of training individually as well. He said that the squad makes sure the community is cared for in terms of medical crisis, and that they have systems in place now, which are followed and working well. He said a majority of calls are medical in nature, and that having a joint department in other communities means that a fire truck and medical responders converge on the scene, and that this will cause an increase in the level of confusion for rescuers and the patient alike.

He said that many fire personnel are not trained in medical care and do not want to be.

He said that with an overall population growing in number of elderly citizens, that confusion just adds to their medical issue at the time of an emergency call.

He indicated that the Fire Chief has gone on record as saying he does not want to oversee medical operations. He further stated that the Fire Department Training Officer has gone on record indicating he only wants to help at a fire scene, but not the middle of the night medical aid calls.

He said that the Fremont Rescue Squad has gone, does go, and will continue to go, to that call in the middle of the night. He said that their current relationship with the Fire Department is a good one, and that they work together on scenes where joint responses are needed, but feel a "takeover" will result in a conflict in patient care.

He said they are worried about a fire officer ordering medical care that is against protocol. He said the have a need for properly trained medical personnel, and their doors are open to anyone who wants to join.

He said that if combined in the future for full-time employment, firefighters will need to take EMS training, which could cost as much as \$7,000 to \$10,000 for Paramedic school; and that an EMT-Basic class costs \$800 to \$1,000 per person.

He said that EMS will have to have their budget approved by the Fire Chief; that they do not pretend to know what the fire department needs and do not believe the Fire Department knows what they need.

He feels that one entity (the FD) having total control over two aspects of emergency services is not appropriate and that each agency should be allowed to grow independently.

Brett Hunter came to the microphone next. He said he is a Lieutenant on the Fire Department, an EMT-B on the Rescue Squad, and served as Chairman of the Fire / Rescue Combination Study Committee. He thanked every member who commits their time to fire and EMS service. He also thanked the committee members for their service on the study committee.

He provided a summary of the request for the study, initially requested by the Budget Committee during the 054-05 budget process to see if there would be a cost savings. Following that, the Board of Selectmen began to prepare for the question of combining services, and authorized a study to be done in the summer of 2005. Committee members considered the advantages and disadvantages, but it was not their intent to provide a recommendation for the combination. They presented their report to the Board of Selectmen.

The Committee's analysis of the advantages and disadvantages were based on interviews, observation, and raw data, obtained from several local departments near to Fremont. Hunter said they talked to EMT's, fire fighters, Deputy Fire Chiefs, and State Officials, including the State Fire Marshal.

They developed a questionnaire to gather information covering topics such as economics, budgetary considerations, receiving grants, training costs, membership cross training, morale, quality of service, and overall improvement of resources.

Hunter provided a brief summary of the benefits of having one department, some of which included an increased pooling of resources, one department, a single perspective, economies of scale related to training, prevention, and communications; a larger presence on scene to complement personnel who are cross trained, better incident accountability, a combination of the reimbursement pay schedules, increased access to funding sources, consolidated grant writing.

He indicated that there would continue to be an increased demand for services with the growth of the town, including someday having full-time employees.

Marian Guidoboni asked a question about responding to calls, if they were combined would someone from each agency respond. Kevin Zukas said no to the question, that response was based upon the need and type of call.

Kevin Zukas indicated if the departments do combine, that it does not necessarily change who needs to respond to a call, untrained firefighters do not respond to medical calls, and you need

to have a state license to respond to an EMS call. We do not need to train paramedics here because we work with a hospital that supplies a medic 24 hours a day if we don't get one from our ambulance service in Raymond. He feels that the whole idea with combining is streamlining the process so we would have one emergency service department, one leader, retain a leader for the rescue to go to the Fire Chief as a liaison; and that the head of the rescue operations will communicate with the Fire Chief. Zukas said that he thinks this is what the rescue needs, EMS needs this and fire needs this.

Chris Braid talked about streamlining and understanding that, and discussed reasons to join, and that they will still have the same line items as a budget. He talked about people dedicated to EMS, and suggested looking along the lines of trying to look at the pros and cons for all options of joining.

He said that many of the rescue members are medical professional outside of EMS, indicating that he is a healthcare professional, an occupational therapist and his wife is a nurse, and they both volunteer.

He said working on ambulances and in EMS is a tough job to do 8 hours and then to be a volunteer on top of that, requires people who care about people and will be there at the 2:00 am call for assistance. He further stated that the Fremont Fire Department has come a long way and are a great organization. He said that Rescue has come a long way too.

He said rescue members are clinicians, and that they know pathology. They are required to do a certain amount of continuing education (24 hours per year) as well as complete bi-annual refresher training programs.

He said he did not feel it was a good idea for the town right now without a plan in place, he feels honestly no, that it is not the thing to do right now.

Representative Dan Itse questioned if they found any negatives in the study. Brett Hunter said no, and said that one of the departments that they did study, thought they would uncombine, and they did so, and then recombined.

Reese Bassett asked some questions indicating he was confused about why their professionalism is compromised by streamlining the operations, and if this happens then rescue members are going to bail out if the departments are combined. He said his second question was how does the supervisory chain work now within the rescue? He outlined the police supervisory chain and asked how it occurs within the rescue currently.

Kyle Murdock answered the questions regarding streamlining: that no matter how you look at it they are two separate things, EMS has nothing to do with the fire service, even thought a lot of departments are combined and have EMS workers, they are two different things. He discussed streamlining and questioned putting all of the emergency services in one organization with a single chain of command. He indicated that the EMS President answers to the Selectmen.

He said that combining it will do nothing but combine the department and have the Chief report to the Selectmen. He feels it is the same people doing the same job except they are answering to someone who does not want to have anything to do with EMS. If people want to join either department they can, EMT's who have no interest in doing fire department work should not have to.

If you combine, Murdock said he believes it will force people to be involved in things they don't want to. He stated that NH statute allows the Selectmen to choose the way that your officials will be elected or appointed. This can include being appointed by the Selectmen; elected by the people; or allow a leader to be elected by their membership. Currently the membership of the rescue elects their leader.

Dick Heselton, the Fire Chief, said it would be taking on more work, and that the survey was independent and included fire and EMS people. He said the committee did a good job and spent a lot of time on it. If it happens, he said he will do the best he can to make it a smooth transition.

He said they are fortunate during the day to have a few people available for the Fire Department. He said that the Rescue members can recommend who they want to be their leader, and that we have a whole year to work these problems out and try and make it a smooth transition but it will probably be a bumpy road.

He mentioned that the other night the Fire Department went to Sandown, and the rescue members were there with the fire department. He said it was a nice feeling to have the rescue people helping out at the fire call, hydrated and helping to change airpacks.

Heselton said that when the time comes that we have to go to full time that it will make the transition easier if people are cross-trained.

The Moderator announced that Polls are now closed for Article 5. The time was 6:30 pm.

Neal Janvrin said he had served on the committee and was proud to do it. He said they found that every town who was combined found that it worked, and if you did not want to be trained one way or the other, that was fine. He said that they found improvements in accountability, the budget process, and training. Janvrin feels that in three to five years, day time help will need to go to full-time, where hired people man the fire station during the day. He feels you can't have people working for two different bosses, and he recommended passage of the article.

Janvrin further stated that all of the emergency services consider our job description and mission is to protect life and property.

Meredith Bolduc called the question and Reese Bassett seconded. The vote was approved. Kyle Murdock moved to allow the last person to speak. Chris Braid seconded. Vickie Murdock had been waiting for the microphone. The group voted to allow her to speak.

Vickie Murdock said she is the Town's Emergency Management Director as well as an EMT on the rescue squad, and was formerly a member of the Fire Department. She said there are two

different departments, and she believes the Fire Chief has no interest in doing the combination to include EMS. She feels that the members currently have made rescue what it is in the past five years, committed their time, late hours at night, and training. If this is about morale, why wasn't it done five years ago when rescue was much smaller, and more in need of help.

She said she quit the Fire Department for personal reasons, and has helped to make the rescue what it is now. She believes there is no reason we can't wait for a few years to have two full time people who work for the fire chief, we don't need to combine them to do this. She believes that 80% of the people on rescue are against this article.

The group also allowed Steve Toohey Sr to speak. He indicated he has lived in Fremont for over 20 years as far as he knows he is the oldest member of the departments combined. He came on the rescue squad within two years of it being formed.

He said when it was formed over 20 years ago, the purpose of Fremont Rescue (then called a FAST Squad) when it was started was to provide basic first aid before Raymond Ambulance arrived or the paramedics from Exeter Hospital. Fremont Rescue has grown to having many EMT's and paramedics; although currently paramedic service is not provided by Fremont Rescue.

Toohey feels that the rescue is not meeting their full obligation, and if a caller dials 911 during the day, they may only get a response from Raymond Ambulance because many rescue members are working. If we combine them, the FD gets 3-5 people to attend calls during the day.

The Moderator interrupted the discussion indicating that it was becoming negative. Toohey ended by saying he supports the combination.

The question has been called and seconded and the vote was affirmative to open the polls. The polls were announced open and as soon as voting is completed, the meeting will be resumed.

The meeting was recessed while people voted on Article 20.

The Moderator read the results of Article 5: YES 115 NO 51
The article needed 110 to pass by the required 2/3 majority. The Moderator announced that Article 5 passes.

Kimberly Jones moved to not reconsider Article 5. Gene Cordes seconded. The vote to not reconsider Article 5 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read article **ARTICLE 6:** To hear the report of the Budget Committee and take any action the Town deems necessary.

Gene Cordes moved the article and Anne Beliveau seconded.

Kevin Zukas spoke for the Budget Committee, indicating that the Department Heads had gone through their budget with a share pencil this year. He said budgets did go up somewhat this

year, and that fuels costs were astronomical as everyone knows. This is the first year payment on the Glen Oakes land, and the budgets included 3% cost of living increases.

#### There was no further discussion. Article 6 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 7:** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for general municipal operations, exclusive of all other warrant articles. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend two million three hundred twenty-nine thousand nine hundred forty-six dollars (\$2,329,946). (Majority vote required.)

Gene Cordes moved the article. Anne Beliveau seconded. There was no discussion. Gene Cordes called the question, Anne Beliveau seconded. The vote to call the question passed by voice vote.

#### There was no further discussion. Article 7 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the purchase of playground equipment and installation for completion of the playground project at Fremont Memorial Fields at 563 Main Street and to authorize the withdrawal of up to twelve thousand nine hundred dollars (\$12,900) from the Playground Equipment & Construction at Memorial Ballfield Capital Reserve Fund; and further to authorize the withdrawal of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) from the Playground Special Revenue Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Gene Cordes moved the article. Anne Beliveau seconded.

Jeff Rowell from the Parks & Recreation Commission provided some information on this article. He said that in 2003 the Commission first brought this before the voters and it did not pass. They needed to do more fundraising, which they have been doing for the past three years. In the last two years, voters put away \$12,500 in the capital reserve fund, and they are asking for that to be released. They continue to fundraise, and are asking here for the balance to be appropriated to get the playground done. He asked voters for their support.

### There was no further discussion. Article 8 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in existing Capital Reserve Funds for the following purposes. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

- a. Police Cruiser \$10,000
- b. Radio Communication Equipment \$5,000
- c. Fire Truck \$12,500
- d. Highway Equipment \$7,500
- e. Highway Building \$15,000

Gene Cordes moved the article. Peter Bolduc seconded. There was no discussion. Anne Beliveau called the question. Reese Bassett seconded. The vote to call the question passed by voice vote.

## There was no further discussion. Article 9 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the existing Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Gene Cordes moved the article. Peter Bolduc seconded.

Gene Cordes explained that there is an already existing capital reserve fund for this, and we just had a revaluation. We are now on a five year cycle for a revaluation and in 2010 we will need to do it again. This puts the money away in savings for the revaluation to be completed in 2010.

#### There was no further discussion. Article 10 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to create a Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of renovating the Fremont Town Hall and further to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in said fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Gene Cordes moved the article. Anne Beliveau seconded.

Gene Cordes indicated that this was to establish a fund to be able to do future renovations at the Town Hall. The land use boards and code enforcement officer are using it, and the heating system is quite antiquated. At some point there will be a need to do renovations down there.

#### There was no further discussion. Article 11 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a to be known as the Town Buildings Repair and Maintenance Fund, for the purpose of repairing and maintaining town buildings, to designate the Board of Selectmen as agents of said fund, and to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in said fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Peter Bolduc moved the article. Gene Cordes seconded.

Gene Cordes explained that this article would be spent at the direction of the Selectmen. He indicated that we do not annually budget for any catastrophic problems which could occur in any of the town buildings. The Board does not want to put it in the operating budget every year, but would have this available if something was to break or go wrong.

#### There was no discussion. Article 12 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read the results of Article 20: YES 90 NO 64

The article needed only a simple majority and the Moderator declared it passed by ballot vote.

David Barker moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 20. Lori Holmes seconded. The vote to not reconsider passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-eight thousand eight hundred six dollars (\$28,806) to purchase and equip a new utility vehicle for the Fremont Police Department and to authorize the withdrawal of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) from the OHRV Special Revenue Fund to offset the purchase price. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Anne Beliveau moved the article. Gary Peters seconded.

Chief Janvrin read a statement about use of the SUV and said there are a number of roads in Fremont not accessible without a four wheel drive vehicle, and it was used as a tow vehicle for the proactive ATV patrols, and is used as a command post.

Janvrin said that back in 1996 he was fortunate to obtain an Army surplus Chevrolet blazer for \$5 that was 11 years old when he got it, has been totaled twice in accidents and babied along, and now is a maintenance nightmare, recently declared unfit for road use.

There were no further questions or discussion. Article 13 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand four hundred twelve dollars (\$3,412) for the purchase of equipment to supplement the OHRV Patrol, including full face helmets, rider safety goggles, ATV safety goggles, safety gloves, point blank vests, radio com ports, and further to authorize the withdrawal of three thousand four hundred twelve dollars (\$3,412) from the Police Department OHRV Equipment Special Revenue Fund for said purchase. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Gene Cordes moved the article. Don Gates seconded.

Reese Bassett spoke to this article indicating that the article does not cost the taxpayers at all. It is funded from a self-perpetuating fund raised through a portion of the summonses issued on the trails, which is about 68% of the fine amount received back from the state of NH. This is put into an equipment fund. Last year they purchased gear for about half of the officers, and this finishes it for remaining officers. So far this year, their patrols are up and the statistics with complaints are down. The trails are becoming safer and quieter. He indicated the department has a sound meter now as well. Their directed patrols range from 4 to 8 hours. Bassett stated that so far this year they have made 259 OHRV stops on 13 shifts, issuing 19 summonses. He said the patrols are very active and asked for support on this article.

There was no discussion. The vote on Article 14 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of sixty-one thousand six hundred forty-three dollars (\$61,643) to shim and overlay paving, and do finish shoulder work on 2,000 feet of each of the following roads: North Road, South Road, and Sandown Road. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Gene Cordes moved the article. Peter Bolduc seconded.

Road Agent Guerwood Holmes referred to page 30 of the Town Report, outlining the road sections to be addressed this year. He said that they will do most of South Road; that North Road is not that bad and can be shimmed for the most part; and South and Sandown Roads will be shimmed and overlaid.

#### There was no discussion. Article 15 passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to begin a Public Health Mosquito control Program and fund the program for one year. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Peter Bolduc moved the article. Don Gates seconded.

Gene Cordes spoke to this article, indicating that a lot of concern had been raised last year in the summer about EEE and concern about mosquito problems. The Board has obtained a couple of proposals and brought it forward for the people to consider.

It was pointed out that there were some 20 incidents of human infection of EEE in the US last year; and seven were in NH.

Rockingham County is considered (along with some of the southern areas of other counties) where the threat is the greatest. The focus on the programs is to get the larvae to get the mosquitoes before they come about. Several towns around us are also proposing to do it this year.

Tyrrell Albaugh said the link to the UNH extension service article (from the Town's website) was good and had a lot of pertinent information. (Some paper copies were also available at the meeting).

Philip Peterson talked about a truck coming out spraying on Martin Road some years ago. He said he feels that the birds need something to eat, if we do spray that it does not need to come down Martin Road.

Christine France said that she lives near the Beede Hill Road swamp and it is quite mosquito infested. She said in looking over the Dragon Mosquito proposal that there is a hazardous portion of it that can be a skin and eye irritant and needs to be properly ventilated when used.

There was concern expressed about making sure the Town used something that is organic, such as Bti which is a natural enzyme.

Anne Beliveau expressed concern about using any chemical product and asked to restrict the town to using organic materials. Anne Beliveau then moved to amend Article 16 to allow the Town to use only Bti for mosquito control. Maria Knee seconded.

#### The vote to amend article 16 to restrict it to only using Bti passed by voice vote.

Tom Fontana discussed organic farming and provisions to allow for an exception that the spraying would not be used if property owners to say they don't want any spraying near their property.

Cordes added that if there is an outbreak and the Town needs to do something, the funding mechanism needs to be in place.

Heidi Carlson was given permission by the body to speak to the article. Part of the proposals includes a monitoring system. The proposals include a full mosquito control program, from investigating where the mosquitoes are and what they may be carrying, to larviciding, to spraying in the late parts of the season as necessary.

It is simply not that feasible for wide-scale spraying, and the State of NH does not simply approve permits that just look at spraying.

There was discussion about a chemical adulticide product that may be used.

Dick Heselton and Bob Larson posed questions and Heidi Carlson talked further about the two proposals received.

Bill Knee said that larvicides work for a period of time, hit them where the females are, then knock down the number of overall population. He offered opinions about their effectiveness in this town, and said that he does not feel that the \$30,000 would be wisely spent at this time.

Joe Delahunty asked about how many households there were, and Carlson offered approximately 1,400. He then suggested for the cost of \$30,000 divided per household that people could buy themselves a mosquito magnet. (The math was incorrectly stated at \$200 per household, and should have been some \$20 per household.)

Kimberly Jones said she had horses and worries about them, reiterating that five of the EEE cases were from Massachusetts, so it is here. She said that every town has lost an animal of some kind to EEE or WNV. She said she burnt up her mosquito magnet because there are so many mosquitoes. She feels it is a large concern for the whole town.

Reese Bassett said that if one of his three kids got sick, he would personally spend this money to help them. He said if we don't do this and think we could have helped someone, that \$30,000 is not a lot of money as far as he is concerned.

George Sonia had a question about the effectiveness that shows the program is working. Carlson provided some basic information from the proposals about tracking and statistics available for next year.

Don Miller asked about the amendment and how it might limit the Town's ability to undertake a program.

#### With no further discussion, Article 16 as amended passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in support of the Community Services Council of NH. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Gene Cordes moved the article. Peter Bolduc seconded.

Dan Itse asked questions about the agency and where their funding comes from. Carlson read from their proposal about each of the agencies involved with the Community Services Council, and outlined some of the services provided in terms of her contact as the Welfare Director.

#### There was no further discussion. Article 17 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven thousand five hundred sixty-five dollars (\$7,565) to purchase a Kustom Signal Speed Monitoring Trailer. This purchase to be offset by acceptance of a grant from the NH Highway Safety Council in the amount of three thousand seven hundred eighty-two dollars (\$3,782). The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Gene Cordes moved the article. Peter Bolduc seconded.

Chief Janvrin stated that the Fremont Police Department has received an increasing number of calls about speed in Fremont. He said that speed complaints are their largest source of complaints and they have identified Beede Hill Road, Main Street, North Road and South Road as problem areas.

Janvrin indicated the department statistics for vehicle stops, warnings, and summonses. He also said that the majority of the accidents reported are due to speed. Most of the department's time is spent responding to calls, making proactive patrol a secondary issue.

Janvrin said their plan was to put the trailer in troublesome areas and give people a friendly warning. Janvrin said he has applied for and been granted a safety grant that will reimburse the Town \$3,872 if the town votes to approve the article.

### There was no discussion. Article 18 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the Town of Fremont based on assessed value, for qualified

taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years \$50,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years \$70,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$90,000. To qualify, the person must have been a new Hampshire resident for at least 5 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income in each applicable age group of not more than \$25,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$35,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$45,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Gene Cordes moved the article. Peter Bolduc seconded.

Gene Cordes explained that with the recent revaluation, the exemptions allowed by past town meeting decisions are too low, based on the new valuations. This proposal doubles the existing amount of the exemption because the value of property just about doubled with the revaluation.

There was no discussion. Article 19 passed by voice vote.

Anne Beliveau moved to restrict reconsideration of all articles up to 19. Gary Peters seconded and the vote was approved by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to accept deeded title to Treaty Court and Dakota Drive as designated on Plans # D-28735, D-30612, and D-31959 from Francis McCarthy/Dakota Realty Trust, with a two year maintenance bond to be held by the Town in the amount of \$50,000. (Majority vote required.)

Gene Cordes moved the article. Peter Bolduc seconded.

Guerwood Holmes said that all of the roads identified in Article 21, 22, and 23 are ready to be accepted, and that the Town has good regulations and standards on new roads, and has an engineer who oversees the roads.

#### There was no discussion. Article 21 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to accept deeded title to Susan's Way as designated on Plan # D-30914 from Ernest Brown/Springbrook Realty Trust, with a two year maintenance bond to be held by the Town in the amount of \$10,500. (Majority vote required.)

Peter Bolduc moved the article. Lori Holmes seconded.

#### There was no discussion. Article 22 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to accept deeded title to the first 1,770 feet of Gristmill Road as designated on Plan # D-27124 from Gristmill LLC, with a two year maintenance bond to be held by the Town in the amount of \$17,000. (Majority vote required.)

Peter Bolduc moved the article. Gary Peters seconded.

There was no discussion. Article 23 passed by voice vote.

The Moderator read **ARTICLE 24:** To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Gary Peters moved the article. Dan Itse seconded. Article 24 passed by voice vote.

Philip Peterson said that he appreciated the efforts of Heidi Carlson for keeping things in order at the Town Hall.

Anne Beliveau moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm. Lori Holmes seconded. The group overwhelmingly voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A Holmes Town Clerk

Minutes were taken and transcribed by Heidi Carlson.